

# The Sun.

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## By Way of Offering a Sentiment.

The Hon. NICHOLAS LONGWORTH of Ohio has been quoted as saying that the "reactionary" referred to in his great speech of a week or so ago was intended as a portrait of the misguided fumbler who does not subscribe to and advocate the policies of President ROOSEVELT. He may not have given the definition exactly in those terms, but it is so nicely applicable at all points, and the Hon. NICHOLAS LONGWORTH is such a clear headed and alert young statesman, that we are disposed to accept the interview in all its original beauty and significance. Moreover, and to flitch from the luxuriant argot of the boulevard, we ourselves are quite willing to let it go at that.

Mr. LONGWORTH, we assume, had reference solely to the President's policy in respect of our embassies and assorted diplomatic establishments in foreign lands; to the maintenance and, indeed, the increase of their present splendor; and we experience a profound and penetrating conviction to the effect that he was inspired by the simple, straightforward idea of enabling those establishments to reflect, if only in a pallid way, the state, the magnificence and the picturesque grandeur of the Washington palace which is, or ought to be, the exemplar of our methods and ceremonies abroad. Viewed in this light, any reversion to the mean spirited if not shabby observances of LOWELL, PHELPS, BAYARD, EUSTIS, BANCROFT, MOTLEY and so on, must necessarily be regarded as a national humiliation, painful to all our European "colonies," and literally irreverent as regards the unmistakable initiative of the White House. In our opinion Mr. LONGWORTH put it most indubitably when he described it as a tendency of reaction.

Looking over the field of American diplomacy as illustrated by our embassies and legations in distant lands, we can easily believe that the smallest relaxation in point of pageantry would operate an intolerable affront to President ROOSEVELT and a deep affliction to the deserving expatriates who envelop our diplomatic activities in a riotous demonstration of solicitude. We realize without the slightest effort the imperative importance of attracting—of course through the medium of food, display and other kinds of entertainment—the titled, the wealthy and the eminent. And, most imminent of all, there is the opportunity of utilizing our military attaches in all the Old World capitals by assigning them to receive and to announce the noble trenchermen, look after their wraps, &c., and generally arrange the details of precedence in the illustrious procession.

Much better this than spying upon a hospitable land and surprising secrets of the Government. It might be more dignified, but at least it would be innocent. And finally, it would offer to the President that homage of imitation which is justly regarded as the finest form of compliment. To employ our military attaches abroad precisely as he employs them here at home will be to illustrate the ultimate revelation of human wisdom and propriety, and incidentally to solve a very pressing, not to say mysterious, problem.

Permit us to propose, with the utmost respect, of course, the ever hallowed sentiment: "On with the dance! Let Thingumbob be unconfin'd!"

## The Alleged Train Bands of Union Labor in Pennsylvania.

It will not do to take too seriously, until further information is forthcoming, the report from Washington that, according to information furnished to the War Department by Captain HENRY H. WHITNEY of the Coast Artillery, certain labor union men in Pennsylvania, notably in the coal regions, have "organized independent military companies, which are secretly armed and drilled, and whose purpose is evidently to oppose the National Guard regiments in case of strikes or other labor troubles." Nor will it do to minimize the possibilities indicated by this report. It will be taken for granted that a Captain in the United States army would not make such serious charges unless he had every reason for believing them to be absolutely true, and so important as to call for special attention by the War Department. He further declares, according to the newspaper despatches, that there are at least thirty-seven such independent organizations, wearing a uniform like that of the regular army and that they are gradually and quietly acquiring arms, concluding that in his opinion "their active hostility to the National Guard forms a menace to State authority and law and order."

Just what will be the effect of this somewhat startling report cannot be determined as yet, but one thing is sure: The State of Pennsylvania is bound to make a thorough and immediate investigation concerning the supposed conditions and to make public the results of the inquiry. The Keystone State has suffered enough in the eyes of the country because of the utterly disgraceful conditions that have too often prevailed in its coal regions in time past, when law, order and safety to life and limb have been cast aside for months on a stretch, and when the entire military powers of the Commonwealth, as represented in an

army of ten thousand men, have been unable to restore conditions invariable in a lawful, civilized community.

There is one curious condition in the anthracite regions that must be taken into account in this matter. Among the miners and mine laborers are scores of thousands of men from southern and eastern Europe who dearly love display, social and fraternal organizations, parades, brave colors, bands of music, and all that pertains to making a gay holiday. Perhaps a majority of all these Poles, Italians and Slavs belong to one or more beneficial orders; almost all of them, it is said, have served in the armies of Europe before they emigrated to this country. The habit of drill, the fun of parading, the sense of standing elbow to elbow in a closely knit organization, are inbred in them.

It may be explained further that not infrequently such organizations have for their primary purpose the fitting of the members for American citizenship, for spreading a true knowledge of American institutions, for bringing up their children to take their places as equal members of a great and free people. There is no doubt whatever as to these facts. The very language of some of the charters of such societies, as recorded at Harrisburg, proves the case. It is barely possible that Captain WHITNEY was not altogether fully informed in the matter about which he has reported to the War Department; but an officer who has served for more than fifteen years with unusual distinction in the United States army, who has been around the world in its service, who made a military reconnaissance of Porto Rico in disguise—thereby furnishing information which was the basis of our military campaign in 1898—is not likely to furnish the War Department with a sensational report unless he has every reason for so doing.

If Captain WHITNEY is right it now belongs to the Governor and people of Pennsylvania to tell the rest of the country what they are going to do in the matter.

## The Executive Order of January 31, 1902.

On January 31, 1902, the President of the United States issued under his own signature the following Executive order, dated at the White House:

"All officers and employees of the United States of every description, serving in or under any of the executive departments, and whether so serving in or out of Washington, are hereby forbidden, either directly or indirectly, individually or through associations, to solicit an increase of pay, or to influence or attempt to influence in their own interest any other legislation whatever, either before Congress or its committees, or in any way save through the heads of the Department in or under which they serve, on penalty of dismissal from the Government service."

The emphasis of the phraseology of this order marks the earnestness of its author. Its terms cannot be mistaken or its meaning misread. Yet Senator EUGENE HALE has laid before the Senate a document which indicates that the commissioned officers of the navy are engaged to-day in the very practices that their Commander in Chief condemned just five years ago next Thursday.

The document in question is a circular calling on each officer of the navy from midshipman up to write or telegraph to his Senators and Representative, urging them to use their influence for the passage at this session of the Navy Personnel bill transmitted to Congress with a special message from the President on December 17. Not only are the officers beseought to use their personal influence in behalf of this measure, but they are asked to enlist "influential friends at home" in the campaign. In fact, the whole machinery of the lobby is to be set in motion, in spite of the explicit prohibition of the President.

Senator HALE has offered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Navy to inquire whether the President's order has been violated by any officer or employee of the Department. The inquiry cannot be too strict.

## France and the German Election.

According to a telegram from Paris the French press is almost unanimous in regarding the outcome of the German election as an emphatic indorsement of Emperor WILLIAM's foreign policy, exemplified in his interference with the affairs of Morocco, and therefore as highly disquieting to France and Great Britain. It is natural, perhaps, that Frenchmen, who are constantly watching with anxiety their neighbor across the Rhine, should regret to see German voters rallying to the support of their sovereign; but disinterested onlookers will be apt to draw an opposite conclusion.

To recognize the real purport of the verdict recorded on January 25 at the ballot box we should keep in view the issue on which the contest ultimately turned. Throughout the campaign the Socialist newspapers strove to prove that the fundamental question to be decided at the polls was not whether the funds alleged to be needed for the defence of German Southwest Africa should be furnished, but whether the Reichstag should at last assert its constitutional right of giving or withholding assent to money bills instead of tamely complying with every imperial demand for an appropriation. It was because the Socialist newspapers managed to convince the Berlin correspondents of many foreign journals as to the pivotal character of this issue that the impression gained ground abroad that the Socialist strength in the Reichstag would be sensibly increased. Nor was it until shortly before the end of the campaign that Herr DENNBERG, the head of the Colonial Bureau, succeeded in demonstrating that if the voters should approve of the last Reichstag's refusal to make the requested appropriation for German Southwest Africa they would administer a deadly blow to the whole colonial policy of the empire. From that moment it was certain that those who see in colonies outlets for the excess of Germany's population and for her surplus products—such advocates of colonial aggrandizement preponderant in all maritime towns and in many manufacturing centres—would strain every nerve to secure a majority for the Government in the next popular assembly. When, therefore, the campaign closed the question before the voters was not

whether they should signify a general approval of the Emperor's domestic and foreign policy, but specifically whether they should support his colonial programme.

Those Germans who hold that the Reichstag should assert hereafter its constitutional rights more firmly than it has asserted them in the past have lost nothing by the general election. On the contrary, they have gained; for almost all the seats lost by the Socialists have fallen not to the Reactionists or to thick and thin upholders of the imperial authority, but to National-Liberals or Radicals, who have striven for forty years to increase the power of the Reichstag by making the Imperial Chancellor, or at least his subordinate coadjutors, responsible to that body. If in the new assembly the Government wants votes enough to overcome a Centrist-Socialist coalition it will find the support of the National-Liberals and Radicals indispensable. It follows that it cannot afford to disregard their fundamental principles, which commit them to a demand for more self-government at home and for the assurance of peace abroad.

It is, then, an indorsement of colonial expansion and by no means an indorsement of a policy of aggression in Europe which has been given by German voters to Emperor WILLIAM. Suppose, however, that the expectations of onlookers had been fulfilled and that the Socialists had made so great gains as to render a Socialist-Centrist coalition irresistible in the new Reichstag. What would have happened then? Finding his prestige lowered and his plans of colonial aggrandizement frustrated, the Kaiser would have been strongly impelled to seek rehabilitation and expansion at the expense of his European neighbors, for by pursuing the latter course he would be enabled to arouse in his subjects the sentiment of patriotism and the instinct of self-preservation. The Emperor WILLIAM is unlikely to forget the impressive proofs furnished in his lifetime of the consolidating effect of a foreign war. He knows that the triumph of 1890 over Austria saved BISMARCK from punishment for unconstitutional acts, and that the victories of 1870 not only reconciled Saxony to Prussian ascendancy but caused even the South German States to join the North German Federation. Recourse to that grim expedient he has always had in reserve, and he might have employed it had he been decisively beaten in the recent contest at the ballot box.

As things have turned out Emperor WILLIAM has no temptation to adopt a policy of aggression and adventure. Thoughtful Frenchmen, therefore, should experience relief from the misgivings and apprehensions with which some of them have watched the outcome of Friday's elections.

The Agricultural Appropriation bill is not only good in itself, but it brings out all the finer feelings of the House. It is a bill to provide for the betterment of the soil and the improvement of the farmer's life. It is a bill to provide for the betterment of the soil and the improvement of the farmer's life. It is a bill to provide for the betterment of the soil and the improvement of the farmer's life.

England's experimental battleship Dreadnought is in the way of winning immortality by furnishing a new common noun to the language. At first the monster war vessels of her type were described by the phrase "the Dreadnought class." Apparently this has proved too clumsy for constant use, and in the Naval Intelligence office summary of foreign naval programmes, attached to the report of the House Committee on Naval Affairs, the Russian Government is reported to "contemplate the immediate acquisition of a squadron of four dreadnoughts." This is easier to write or speak than "four battleships of the Dreadnought class," and conveys as clear and distinct a meaning as the longer expression. It is a good enough word, and it is needed, there is no reason why it should not be adopted. The monitor is a precedent.

## The Case of "Salome."

The protest against further performances of "Salome" at the Metropolitan Opera House was without precedent in the history of that institution. Its energy is a sign of health. Stockholders in our opera houses have not interested themselves hitherto in the morals of operatic plots, for too exacting scrutiny in this direction might curtail the repertoire beyond all practical limits. But RICHARD STRAUSS's opera stands in a class of its own. Mr. CONYER recognized this fact when he wisely decided to produce it only at special performances.

The European success of "Salome" does not prejudice Americans in its favor as a work of art, nor prevent them from taking the course they would follow in the case of any work essentially unfit for public performance. The history of this opera has been tainted from the outset with the strongest element of sensationalism. STRAUSS selected the subject with his unflinching scent. Theatrical managers are not to be blamed for attempting to reawaken interest in the works of OSCAR WILDE and to place him high among modern poets have succeeded better in Germany than anywhere else. No other theme of literature is just now so absorbing to that public; so STRAUSS found no text so well suited to his purposes as "Salome." The opera has passed triumphantly from one European operatic stage to another.

The reception of "Salome" abroad, however, has no lesson for the New York public. Its success on the Continent merely indicates that a lower standard of taste and morals maintains wherever the Biblical origin of the story will always prevent its performance in London. It is fair to suppose that the same hostile public feeling would have been aroused there by the scenes which the opera depicts and the passions with which it is concerned, for they will always be of the kind that the English speaking nations find revolting when presented in public performances.

It is not important, however, to consider what other countries may think of the action of the stockholders of the Metropolitan Opera House. It is enough that the air everywhere within twenty miles of that house of music will be better to breathe with "Salome" gone.

## The Girls and the Plain People in Congress.

We love to drop into the House when the Agricultural Appropriation bill is under way. Then Representatives build bonfires of words in honor of the tillers of the soil and renew their devotion to the sacred soil of their districts. It is a good show.

One brief word of thanks to the Hon. JAMES RUTABAGA MANN of Chicago. His analysis of blue grass seed and alfalfa, his falcon eye for trefoil and burr clover, have gained the absolute confidence of the simple swains of Cook county. The story that Mr. MANN believes alfalfa and alpaca to be one and indivisible is a base invention of corporate interests.

The Hon. JAMES WHEATSTONE OVERSTREET of Sylvania, Ga., spoke warmly for "the man behind the plough":

"But, sir, the plain working people, who are the mainstay of the nation's wealth, are reading the despatches that are sent from this capital giving a daily record of what Congress is doing, and they will demand a more satisfactory reason than has yet been given why the members of this House, with the impetuosity of young schoolboys, rush about in wild confusion eager to increase their own pay and in the next breath turn an unwilling ear to

legislation designed to benefit the honest voters who sit at the home. It is not right, and the day of reckoning will come when the people will rise up in their might and hurl from power the unfaithful Representative who legislated in his own selfish interest and neglected the interests of the people whom he was elected to serve." (Loud applause.)

Plain notice to the wretch who tries to lop the Plain Workers' Appropriation bill.

The Hon. WILLIAM RICHARDSON of Alabama deplored the disappearance of the mocking bird. Mr. RICHARDSON forgot that "splendid songster," Colonel JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES.

The Hon. EZEKIEL S. CANDLER, Jr., of Mississippi held the usual "tribute" to the speeders of the plough and ballot:

"Indeed and in truth the farmer is a patriot and a public benefactor, because in helping himself he helps everybody else, and it is the foundation rock upon which this whole structure stands; and it is by his brawn and honest muscle that the development of our country has been produced, not only in his own line, but in every other line."

Nothing was too good for them. "The arm of the Government should go out cheerfully at all times" to them. Mr. CANDLER pictured the discomfiture of the Representative who, with increased pay in his pocket, was enjoying "the luxuries, the pleasures and comforts," and yet had taken from "the honest old farmer" the "single package of garden seed." We should like to linger among the honest old farmers, but here's metal more attractive:

"Mr. LAMB—Should this amendment prevail, what will become of the provision carried in the other bill for the distribution of flower seed, and how will you and I send our pretty girls any flower seed?"

"Mr. CANDLER—We will not have any flower seeds sent to the pretty girls, and they will look longingly with their bright and smiling faces, anxiously desiring the flowers, but we will be compelled to say 'No' to the sweetest, noblest and best of our country's creation, a pure, beautiful girl." (Applause.)

"Mr. CLAYTON—Except a white haired old lady, who is just as sweet and lovely."

The Agricultural Appropriation bill is not only good in itself, but it brings out all the finer feelings of the House.

Mr. BRYAN, available of expression and finding himself unrelieved by the weekly, is to start a magazine. He needs a morning and an evening daily, all editorial, to utter even a small part of the thoughts that arise in him.

England's experimental battleship Dreadnought is in the way of winning immortality by furnishing a new common noun to the language. At first the monster war vessels of her type were described by the phrase "the Dreadnought class." Apparently this has proved too clumsy for constant use, and in the Naval Intelligence office summary of foreign naval programmes, attached to the report of the House Committee on Naval Affairs, the Russian Government is reported to "contemplate the immediate acquisition of a squadron of four dreadnoughts." This is easier to write or speak than "four battleships of the Dreadnought class," and conveys as clear and distinct a meaning as the longer expression. It is a good enough word, and it is needed, there is no reason why it should not be adopted. The monitor is a precedent.

The Speaker—The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. SULLIVAN) asks unanimous consent to suspend the rules and read by title the bill (H. R. 10000) for the relief of the United States against the growth of mill-labor.

Mr. PATNE—Mr. Speaker, I object—From the Congressional Record of January 28.

The tame submission of the Hon. JOHN A. SULLIVAN to the report of the Hon. SERENO PAVEN justifies the opinion that Mr. SULLIVAN himself is not disturbed by the growth of militarism in the United States, and that he was personally conducting the protest of "leading citizens" by request. In Mr. SULLIVAN's Boston district those who do not call themselves leading citizens are not afflicted by militarism anywhere. Few, very few, of Mr. SULLIVAN's supporters are haunted by the spectre of war. Indeed, the only reason for it on the jump when it comes. We suspect that most of the "leading citizens of the United States" who wanted to get into the Record are residents of eastern Massachusetts and members of the Anti-Imperialist Society. Why not print their protest in the report of the annual meeting, where it would look natural?

## Mr. Hammerstein Not a Candidate.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In the SEN of January 27 several of the directors of the Conried Opera Company are quoted as saying in reference to a possible candidate as a successor to Mr. Conried that "Mr. Oscar Hammerstein had never been thought of as director under any circumstances and did not correspond in any particular to the requirements which a manager must possess."

Of these directors in this matter by "several" of these directors is a most audacious and impertinent. As the sole owner of the Manhattan Opera House, and as the sole director of a grand opera company which within a few weeks has established itself firmly as a success in the eyes of the public, I am not apt to be "looking for a job" in the Metropolitan Opera House.

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 28.

## American Cottons at Shanghai.

At present there is a great congestion of American cotton piece goods at Shanghai, says Special Agent W. A. Graham Clark of the Bureau of Manufactures. Sales cannot be forced except at great reductions in price. The cotton trade at Shanghai is in a state of depression. The cotton trade at Shanghai is in a state of depression. The cotton trade at Shanghai is in a state of depression.

Special Agent Clark did not find the complaints of "bad American packing" to have much foundation. It seems that the contractors, Chinese intermediaries, are allowed as privileges all sorts of favors and special treatment. The contractors, Chinese intermediaries, are allowed as privileges all sorts of favors and special treatment. The contractors, Chinese intermediaries, are allowed as privileges all sorts of favors and special treatment.

## Blood and Water at Kingston.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Some of your correspondents who have written on the Kingston incident try to show that the bad treatment of Americans was not prevalent in France. It was in fact, a Frenchman who was killed by a Frenchman. It was in fact, a Frenchman who was killed by a Frenchman. It was in fact, a Frenchman who was killed by a Frenchman.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 28.

## McKinley Day.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Referring to the letter of the Hon. The SEN of January 28, urging the observance of the late President McKinley's birthday on January 29, permit me to suggest that we all display from our flagpoles on that day the Stars and Stripes as a tribute to the memory of one of God's noblest men whose name is borne in reverential respect by all good American citizens.

B. S. OSBORN.

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## French Duels.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: You stated in an article on duelling in France that bendy blades and light charges are occasionally used in the duels. It is not so. The French duels are not so. The French duels are not so. The French duels are not so.

## FRIENDLY JAPAN.

Only a Small Element in the United States Looking for Trouble.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The question of who among the nations of Europe would aid and who would oppose the United States in case we were involved in a war with Japan is purely academic. The possibility of such a war is very remote indeed. If such a war ever does take place we should probably be to blame for it. From many years residence among the Japanese I know that there is universal good will and sincere admiration and friendship among all classes of the Japanese people for the United States. They have always looked upon us as a just and fair people and are particularly grateful for the fact that we have aided them by encouragement, sympathy and in still more substantial ways to attain their present position of equality with the first nations.

If we ever lose the friendship and good will of the Japanese people it will be because we wantonly desert them away. They themselves are an eminently rational people. In their national affairs passion and prejudice are never permitted to carry away those who are in control. They will never ask of us what is not just and reasonable. They will not be quickly roused when they are shown to be in the wrong. They will do more than that; they will yield a great deal that they should not be asked to yield before they would take up the case of the Japanese. However, no one who really knows the Japanese can doubt that they will fight even the United States rather than yield that equality among nations for which they have had to pay so heavily and which the United States should not be asked to attain. They ought to fight us if we ever pursue a course so unreasonable and unjust.

It cannot be questioned that a certain element in this country is so narrow minded as to feel that Japan would not hesitate to treat Japan with unbecoming contempt. It is to this class that the San Francisco school affair, the talk of a Japanese exclusion bill and various malicious newspaper paragraphs are to be credited.

As for the San Francisco school affair, it is strange that but very few papers have ever seemed to understand what it is that the Japanese resent. If the San Francisco authorities had provided an area limit for the various grades of the schools and this had been found to exclude certain Japanese young men there would have been nothing to say. If they had not funds or room or for any reason or no reason decided not to admit the children to the school, and this had been found to exclude most or all of the Japanese children, nothing would have been said by the Japanese. They could have said nothing because they would have been receiving the treatment that all other foreigners were receiving. To decide that all other foreign children might attend the public schools in their neighborhoods, but that the Japanese children should be segregated, was a clear case of race discrimination, at once unjust to the Japanese and insulting to the Japanese people. One of the most curious things about this regulation was the fact that the president of the school board which enacted it was Aaron Altman, a member of a race which has for centuries been subjected to the bitterest persecution born of this same type of irrational race prejudice.

As for an exclusion act, it would be a direct violation of our treaty with Japan and would be tantamount to a declaration of war. It would be tantamount to a declaration of war. It would be tantamount to a declaration of war. It would be tantamount to a declaration of war.

That a certain element, small no doubt, deliberately and maliciously strives to sow the seeds of ill will between the United States and Japan is a fact which the public press is plain to any one who watches the public press. It is this element which circulates such lies as that the Japanese Government is secretly sending Japanese soldiers to Hawaii under the guise of laborers, that great quantities of rifles are shipped in the same way that Japanese military officers are caught sketching our forts in the Philippines, and like items of a similar nature.

This element gives a sinister twist to every bit of Japanese news, and in connection with the San Francisco school affair it has been especially busy in circulating misinformation calculated to prejudice our people against the Japanese.

We will take the course of action upon the part of our Government and people that is in every way unreasonable and unjust to destroy the friendship of the Japanese people and force their Government to look upon us as a nation which is unworthy of their friendship. We will ever be directed against the United States.

J. W. DOUGHTY.

## A New Zealand Case.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Let me add one to the precedents cited in THE SUN of January 28, in support of the action in landing men-of-war in Kingston.

In January, 1885, I served in the United States steamship Iroquois, then lying at Auckland, New Zealand. A fire started in the mainmast yard, and about midnight the Captain (now Rear Admiral) Yates Sterling did not wait for any elaborate invitation, but landed fifty blue-jackets, who were extremely useful in taking shipping out in streams, under steam, under sail, and who could not readily be moved, taking furniture and valuables from houses in the immediate vicinity of the fire district.

The assistance rendered was considered so valuable by the people of the city that the Captain was elected an honorary citizen. The Aldermen passed a resolution thanking the Captain and praising the work of the crew and presented the ship with a framed endorsement of the resolution. This was a most unusual and complimentary honor. The contrast to the unmannerly, vulgar conduct of the person of the picturesque Dickens name.

JAMES N. DOUGLASS.

Chief Master at Arms, U. S. S. Tennessee.

LEAHOD ISLAND, Philadelphia, January 28.

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## PROF. ELLIOTT REBUKED.

Members of House Committee Said He Was Insulting Witnesses.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The Committee on Ways and Means this morning had another session with Prof. H. W. Elliott on the Alaskan fur seal question. The professor, who is enthusiastic in his denunciation of the North American Commercial Company, which has a contract with the Government for seal fishing, refused repeatedly to conform to the committee's rules of argument. His course led Gen. Grosvener to characterize him as "the most insulting and contemptuous witness" he had ever heard before the committee. Mr. Grosvener's characterization of the professor was seconded by Chairman Payne and Mr. DALLAN, who both told him that he was not helping his case by the sort of statements he persisted in making in referring to his opponents as "perjured accusers" and "dishonest witnesses."

After Prof. Elliott had persisted in reading a mass of evidence submitted before a fur seal tribunal in the case of the capture of the schooner named Haman, which was by the Russian Government for piracy, none of which has been disputed, the committee decided to conclude the hearings on the seal question and to postpone the protection of the fur seals. Action upon the resolution will be taken by the committee at a later date.

## THE ROMANCE OF A PIGMY.

The Story and Its Sequel.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Some months ago the newspapers said, and the various humane organizations and individuals their way, with interesting pigmy from the Congo, Ota Benga. It may be of interest to your readers to know the untold story of this pigmy, who was captured in the little man who is supposed to have been incarcerated in the monkey house at the Bronx Park Zoo and to have been rescued therefrom through the efforts of philanthropic and religious organizations.

The whole thing seemed incredible to me, at the time of the happenings, that I took the trouble of inquiring into it, and beg to present herewith the version of the affair as I have learned it from S. J. Verne (who brought Ota Benga from the Congo) and the publisher, T. Hornaday, director of the New York Zoological Park and one of the most prominent zoologists in the world. What I have learned is as follows:

Some years ago Mr. Verne went to Africa on behalf of a group of Southern gentlemen who were interested in ascertaining whether a colony could be established in the Congo to which as many American negroes might be sent. Mr. Verne, who was a member of the St. Louis world's fair, drew near Mr. Verne brought over here five pigmies and four natives of usual stature, in order that visitors might see them and compare them. Newspapers and the general public were so interested in the pigmies that when the St. Louis exposition closed Mr. Verne received, as I understand it, an offer of \$5,000 to exhibit the pigmies in Madison Square Garden for a term of weeks. Also he received an offer equivalent to \$4,000 a week to exhibit them in London. Having brought the pigmies and other natives to this country for a purpose distinctly other than that of a dime museum, Mr. Verne declined the offers and took his people back to the Congo, where they landed safe and sound and in good health in their homes. One of the pigmies who had become attached to Mr. Verne and who had thoroughly enjoyed his sojourn in America was Ota Benga, about whom such tremendous power was aroused in New York a few weeks ago. When he learned that Mr. Verne was to return to his country last autumn, Mr. Verne's very hard heart was softened, and he decided to be taken along. Mr. Verne was very glad to bring him, as he also was bringing with him two other pigmies, and he knew that a long voyage from Africa to Ota Benga, better than any other person could preserve the comfort and health of the chimpanzees. Mr. Verne, disliking a repetition of the publicity attendant upon his St. Louis experience, requested in his letter to the board, and they kindly acceded to this request, so that several weeks elapsed after the pigmy reached New York with the chimpanzees before the newspapers got hold of the fact of his arrival here.

When Mr. Verne took the chimpanzees to the Bronx Park Zoo Ota Benga went with them, and he handled them so successfully that Dr. Hornaday immediately hired him as the best person outside of himself—certainly the best person outside